Questions admitted, answered, etc.—last Budget and Vrischigam Sessions.

290. Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—Will the Government be pleased to state the number of questions received, the number admitted, the number rejected and the number answered in the last Budget and Vrischigam Sessions?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—

	Budget Session 1111.	Vrischigam Session 1112.
Questions received	312	316
Number admitted	303	259
Number rejected	9	57
Number answered	232	125

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri).*—May I know, Sir, of the 134 questions not answered at the Vrischigam session, whether any one of them has been answered in the subsequent sessions—either in Makaram or in this session?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—Yes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri).*—Have all the remaiuing questions been answered?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—I cannot say exactly. Most of them would have been exhausted. Questions put on each day are reduced in number so that the non-officials may have the chance of asking supplementary questions on all.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*—Are there not, Sir, some questions which have yet to be answered which have to their credit seven or eight month's notice?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—I don't think.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri).*—Of those questions not answered in the Vrischigam Session, was the reason for non-answering want of time to collect statistics, or the fixing of 25 questions per day?

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Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*— We are having it on a workable basis. It is a matter of advantage to the House that we reduce the number of questions for each day.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri).*— Of the questions for which answers have been collected and not answered in the Vrischigam Session is there any question which has not been answered in the Makaram Session or this Session?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*— I cannot say definitely.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*— Was there not the practice of giving a statement of the figures contained in the answer to this question from the Presidential chair?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*— I am not aware.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*— There was such a practice and my question is whether the Government will continue to do it.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Joint Secretary to Government).*— There was not a practice like that.

Mr. T. S. Balarama Ayyar *(Trichur North).*— It is enough if all the answers are collected and furnished on the last day.

Mr. President.—I think my experience in the Legislative Assembly will enable the Hon'ble Members to solve this difficulty. At least in the minds of some people there is an assumption that Government are not answering certain questions. It is not so. In the matter of getting answers from Government and in the matter of placing answers in the hands of the Members, the Legislative Assembly follows a different procedure. There they have got two classes of questions—starred questions and unstarred questions. The starred questions are answered on the floor of the House, the unstarred questions are printed and kept on the table. Starred questions are not printed and supplied in advance as it is done here. The number of starred questions for which answers have to be got is in the hands of the non-official members. If they have got 100 starred questions, for all of them they automatically get answers. You cannot have it both ways. You spend half an

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hour for one question and at the same time you want the Government to answer 350 questions in one sitting. It is not possible.

Mr. T. S. Balarama Ayyar *(Trichur North).*—My point is questions for which answers have been collected may be printed and published at least on the last day.

Mr. President.—We have no procedure to enable us to do so.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—Have the Government any objection to evenly distribute the questions?

Mr. President.—What does the Member mean by that.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—Suppose there are 200 questions and five days. On each day answers may be furnished to 40 questions instead of only to 15 or 20.

Mr. President.— In other words, the Hon'ble Member wants to have both the advantages. He wants answers to all questions and he wants the fullest liberty to answer only 10 of them.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—It is left to the non-official members to so adjust ourselves. If Government have answered 40 questions, we will so adjust ourselves so that we can reach all the important questions.

Mr. President.—Government are under the obligation to answer such questions as are definitely asked and questions not asked, Government are not obliged to answer. Our procedure gives the right to Hon'ble Members to ask questions and get answers. That is what we are doing now. When an Hon'ble Member, for example says, question No. 325, he has asked a question and it has to be answered. Government will not undertake to supply answers to questions which have not been asked. That is why a distinction is made between starred and unstarred questions. Hon'ble Members can make a distinction as to what are the questions which they consider to be important and what they consider to be unimportant. Government are under an obligation to answer all the questions asked on the floor of the House.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur South).*— Am I to take it that the Government stands on its right in not answering questions on which supplementary questions have been put?

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Mr. President.— Government are bound to answer questions which are put on the floor of the House.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur South).*— May I put a question. Suppose there are thirty questions answered by the Government. Before 12 O'clock all the questions are answered. Is not the member precluded from putting further questions for which the Government has got ready replies.

Mr. President.—That is why the Government have put down the average number of questions to be answered per day as 30 or 25. It affects sometimes the non-officials and sometimes the Government. Therefore the advantage is evenly distributed. I am not going to discuss about it. I only threw out a suggestion for the convenience of the Hon'ble Members. If they are prepared to take advantage of it they may. If not they need not.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Anthikad).*— May I know, Sir, whether in the Assembly all the questions put are answered in one sitting?

Mr. President.—Not at all.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri).*—May I know whether the benefit of the suggestion could not be realised by the amendment to Standing Orders that comes up in this session?

Mr. President.—We will try that.

Persons arrested on warrant—Ernakulam District Munsiff's Court—particulars regarding.

ഡൻഫ മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി *(Muslims).*—

താഴെ പറയുന്ന ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്കു ഗവൺമെണ്ടു സദയം മറുപടി പറയുമോ:—

(ഫ) എറണാകുളം ഡിസ്ട്രിക്ട് മുൻസീഫ് കോർട്ടിൽനിന്നും ഫഫഫഒ ചിങ്ങമാസം ഫ-ാംന- മുതൽ മകരം ഫ0-ാംന- വരെ വിധിക്കടത്തിനുവേണ്ടി എത്ര പുള്ളികളെ വാറണ്ടിൽ പിടിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്?

(ഒ) ഓരോ വാറണ്ടും എത്രവീതം സംഖ്യ വസൂലാക്കേണ്ടതിലേക്കായിരുന്നു;

(ന) ഈ പിടിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള പുള്ളികളിൽ എത്രപേരെ മാസാവധിക്കു പണം അടയ്ക്കുവാൻ അനുമതി നൽകിക്കൊണ്ടു വിട്ടയച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്;

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